

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

From the
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

To:

PCT

**WRITTEN OPINION OF THE
INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY**

(PCT Rule 43bis.1)

		Date of mailing (day/month/year)
Applicant's or agent's file reference P37234-P0		FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraph 2 below
International application No. PCT/JP2005/005286	International filing date (day/month/year) 23.03.2005	Priority date (day/month/year) 23.03.2004
International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC		
Applicant MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC INDUSTRIAL CO., LTD.		

<p>1. This opinion contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. I Basis of the opinion</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. II Priority</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Box No. VI Certain documents cited</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application</p>
<p>2. FURTHER ACTION</p> <p>If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered.</p> <p>If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.</p> <p>For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.</p> <p>3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.</p>

Name and mailing address of the ISA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

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Box No. I Basis of this opinion

1. With regard to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
 This opinion has been established on the basis of a translation from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b)).
2. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the claimed invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of:
 - a. type of material
 a sequence listing
 table(s) related to the sequence listing
 - b. format of material
 in written format
 in computer readable form
 - c. time of filing/furnishing
 contained in the international application as filed.
 filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search.
3. In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4. Additional comments:

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Box No. V Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	3, 9, 11, 12, 22, 29	YES
	Claims	1, 2, 4-8, 10, 13-21, 23-28	NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	9, 22, 29	YES
	Claims	1-8, 10-21, 23-28	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-29	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations:

Document 1: JP 11-339385 A (Canon Inc.), 10 December 1999
 Document 2: JP 11-39801 A (Olympus Optical Co., Ltd.), 12 February 1999
 Document 3: JP 63-48662 A (Hitachi, Ltd.), 01 March 1988
 Document 4: JP 8-335386 A (Hitachi, Ltd.), 17 December 1996
 Document 5: JP 2-183472 A (Fujitsu Ltd.), 18 July 1990

The inventions of claims 1, 2, 4-8, 10, 13-21, 23-28 are described in documents 1-3 cited in the ISR and therefore, do not appear to possess novelty or involve an inventive step. In the art described in documents 1-3, when updating the information recorded in a recordable recording medium, correlation information for correlating the address information of the information prior to update in a drive device (first information) and the address information after update (second information) as exchange management information is recorded on the recording medium with the information after update, and when reproducing, the address information is acquired based on the correlation information recorded in the exchange management information and the information after update is reproduced (document 1 (paragraphs 0013-0018 and Figs. 11-15), document 2 (paragraphs 0013, 0019-0024 and Figs. 1-3), document 3 (page 2, lower left column, line 8 to page 9, upper left column, line 7; page 5, lower left column, line 6 to lower right column, line 3)).

The inventions of claims 3, 11, 12 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on documents 1-3 and documents 4, 5 cited in the ISR. As seen in documents 4 and 5, the point of enabling file management information of directories, etc. recorded in a recordable recording medium to be updated is well known. No exceptional difficulty is found in the point of treating file management information as the update target information of documents 1-3.

The inventions of claims 9, 22, 29 are neither described in any of the documents cited in the ISR nor obvious to a person skilled in the art.

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Box No. VI	Certain documents cited			
1.	Certain published documents (Rule 43bis.1 and 70.10)			
	Application No. Patent No.	Publication date (day/month/year)	Filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (valid claim) (day/month/year)
	JP 2004-171714 A	17.06.2004	22.11.2002	
	[P, X]			
2.	Non-written disclosures (Rule 43bis.1 and 70.9)			
	Kind of non-written disclosure	Date of non-written disclosure (day/month/year)	Date of written disclosure referring to non-written disclosure (day/month/year)	